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## SHANE CRASSHACH, AND PAUDHEREEN FADH.

SIR—In your number for July, you gave some account of Shane Crasshach and Paudhereen Fadh, to which can add a few more particulars.

Some years ago I paid a visit to the Giant's Causeway, and stopped on my road at the house of the Rev. Mr. Law, the respectable pastor of the Dissenting congregation of Banagher, in the county of Derry. My host, though at a very advanced age, was full of local anecdotes, and told me many circumstances of the persons above-mentioned, whom he remembered to have seen executed. The family of Crasshach was long distinguished as the most inveterate and daring rapparees of Ulster. The last of them, and with whom the vocation of rapparee became extinct, consisted of a father and two sons, who were distinguished by the names of Shane, or John Crasshach; Phoele Beg, little Paul; and Paurya, or Paudhereen Fadh, young Paddy. Their education was such as qualified them for their calling. It was the practice of the father to place a platter of strabout in the middle of the floor; then excluding the boys, and shutting the door, they were told they could get no supper, unless by force or fraud they could take the platter from him. This gave rise to many contests and stratagems, so that the father and his sons were seldom seen abroad, without black eyes and bloody noses, mutually inflicted in this family school.

By this mode of education they became so daring and expert, that they were chosen leaders of the rapparees of Dungioni, a gang of desperadoes, that for half a century kept the country in alarm, and the magistrates in subjection. I visited the bridge, which is still standing, where they robbed general Napier and his party; it is still called "the General's-bridge," and I heard on the spot the story of the robbery, with little variation of the circumstances from your account of it.

After a long career of outrage, depredation, and impunity, it was at length determined to make an example, though a tardy one, of the ring-leaders; so Shane Crasshach, Phoele Beg, and Paurya Fadh, were arrested, tried, and condemned together. It seemed at this time exceedingly difficult to get over in Ireland the repugnance felt for executing a malefactor, for a pardon was actually offered to the father if he would accept of it, but he would listen to no terms in which his sons were not included. "Well," said he, "I am an ould man now, and I can't be long after them, anyhow; so wif the blessing o' God, I'll shake a foot with the boys." He persevered in this determination, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the sheriff and magistrates; and my informant saw him hanged between his two sons, holding each by the hand.

X. Y.

## A HARDY ADMIRAL.

In the reign of Queen Anne, Captain Hardy, whose ship was stationed at Legara bay, received intelligence of the arrival of seventeen Spanish galleons, under a convoy of the like number of men-of-war, in the harbour of Figo, and without any directions for so doing, sailed to Sir George Cooke, the then commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean, and gave him such advice as induced him to make the best of his way to Figo, where he took all the before mentioned ships.

Sir George was sensible of the importance of the intelligence, and the successful expedition of the captain. But when the victory was obtained, and the proper advantage made of it, he summoned Captain H. on board, and with a stern countenance said, "you have done an important service to your country, and to the Queen; you have added to its honor, and enriched it by your diligence. But do you not know, Sir, that you are liable this moment to be shot for quitting your station without orders." "He is unworthy to hold a commission in her Majesty's service" replied the captain, "who holds his life as aught, when the glory and interests of his Queen and country require him to hazard it." On this heroic answer, he was despatched home with the first news of the victory, and letters of commendation to the Queen, who instantly knighted him and afterwards made him a rear-admiral.

## SCARCITY OF HUSBANDS.

SIR—Amongst the many complaints of privations so prevalent in the present day, there is one which we females have particularly to deplore—one, which, in our opinion, strikes not merely at the prosperity, but the very existence of the state.

The deficiency I speak of is that of husbands; yes, Sir, the scarcity of husbands, and the depreciation of female charms, are subjects, we conceive, full of importance. To the anxious matron, who has already presented three unmarried daughters, and has as many more to "bring out," you may address yourself for information, if you have any doubt of this growing evil.

No doubt some censorious persons affect to say, that there are a few changes in the manners of young ladies which render them less eligible as wives, than Irish women have been for many centuries—that the universal ambition of excelling as artists, particularly in the performances of musical difficulties, has subtracted greatly from their general power—that to please and to surprise by musical talents, are perfectly distinct—that such a degree of skill as is necessary to please, is attainable by moderate practice, provided the performer has received from nature a good ear, with an agreeable voice or flexible finger; while to enable her to surprise, days, weeks, and months and years must be sacrificed; and the less the poor girl is gifted by nature, the more time and pains must she sacrifice at the shrine of art. These critics affect to say that the time devoted to accomplishments by which, after all, none can give pleasure who do not possess some natural requisites, never yet universal—that a few of those prime and precious hours of life's morning might be passed more advantageously in reading, conversing with persons of mature taste, forming a good style in writing, domestic concerns, in superintending systematic plans of charity—that the youthful mind is too valuable to be frittered away in acquiring the minor branches of various arts, while to excel in the higher walks even, one requires the labour of a life—that a young lady will never really sing, dance, or play so well as a third or fourth rate public performer, although every little circle boasts its own Catalina; and that the female world, in seeming to think those talents invaluable, have, by their imperceptible but powerful influence on the other sex, led many of the marrying men to join in their opinion, and, therefore, to seek their wives in those places which are the natural hot-beds of ornamental accomplishment.

But, Sir, I do not mean to trouble you with any regular dissertation on the melancholy theme of my letter; I have only started the game, and hope some of your other correspondents may pursue it.

And am your humble servant,  
AN OLD MAID.

## INSTRUCTIVE AXIOMS.

1. Whatever your profession is, endeavour to acquire merit in it; for merit is esteemed by every body, and is so precious a thing that no person can purchase it.

2. Of this be certain, that no trade can be so bad as none at all, nor any life so tiresome as that which is spent in continual visiting and dissipation. To give all one's time to other people, and never reserve any for one's self, is to be free in appearance only and a slave in effect.

3. Though your profession should not lead you to study, love and respect people of letters; and if you are not learned yourself, esteem those who are so.

4. Be easy of address, and courteous in conversation, and then every body will think it a pleasure to have any dealing with you.

5. Have the same regard for a l the world, that you would wish them to have for you.

6. By honesty and integrity you will gain credit every where, and your word will be thought more valuable in any business you may be concerned in, than all the lawyers' bonds in the world.

7. You will find no greater enemy than yourself if you suffer your passions to govern you.

8. Receive your relations and friends with and engaging air; if you do otherwise, you are sure of seeing them.